



The Arc[™]

Greater Houston

ACHIEVE WITH US

Resource Guide for Special Needs

Local, State and National Resources

last revision September 2012

www.aogh.org

713-957-1600

713-957-1699 (FAX)

This revision of the ***Resource Guide for Special Needs*** would never have occurred without the extensive volunteer service hours of a select group of very special women.

All of the staff of *The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter* want to convey their gratitude to these special volunteers:

Mattie Mills
Dorothy Stephenson
Sophie Haase

What The Arc Stands for:

The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization formed in 1984. We exist to help insure that all children and adults with intellectual and all other related developmental disabilities are valued and included, **not excluded because they are different.**

Our goal is to provide the supports that will allow all children with intellectual and developmental disabilities to have the **same experiences that all children should have as they grow up.**

The Arc serves as the **voice of all those who cannot speak for themselves**, but who just want to live in and be part of their own community.

The Arc works hard **to respond to the real-life needs** of every child and every family who experiences an intellectual and any other related disabilities.

The Arc works for the right of every child and adult with special needs to receive the behavioral supports necessary to be fully included in the community.

This guide is for informational purposes only. None of the listing contained herein should be considered as recommendations on the part of The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter

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Local Resources for the Greater Houston Area

Disability Information and Support Groups (1st by all disability applicable services, 2nd by type of disability)

All Disabilities/All Special Needs Services & Inclusive Parent Support Groups

<p>The Arc: Greater Houston— <i>Central and service locations</i> General referral and information services. Special education assistance (for families of children with all types of disabilities) including individual assistance and trainings for parents and professionals. Supports Familias Hispanas support group. Social, leisure and respite programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Also Self- Advocates support group for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities http://www.aogh.org/</p>	713-957-1600
<p>Early Childhood Intervention Local area early childhood (ages 0 -3) intervention services run by the Texas state agency DARS (Department of Assistive and rehabilitative services). Multiple locations. http://www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/searchalpha.asp?letter=h</p>	(see website)
<p>Easter Seals Disability Services - Central They provide some respite services and activities for children with all types of disabilities http://www.eastersealshouston.org</p>	713-838-9058
<p>Exceptional Parents of Little Angels - Pasadena Parent run support group that meets monthly at the Verne Cox Center. Meets September through May. No Website</p>	281-464-3799
<p>Familias Hispanas Parent run, Spanish speaking, parent support group for parents of children with all types of disabilities. Supported by The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter. Meets at least 1 time per month http://www.aogh.org/Espanol.html</p>	713-957-1600
<p>Families Can Program – Parent Education Project - Central For families of children with special health care needs. Parent caseworkers work one-on-one with families to find services for their children and to enhance the family's quality of life. They also offer a Relatives as Parents Program that provides information and case management. http://www.las.uh.edu/pep/families-can.aspx</p>	713-743-5435
<p>Family to Family Network – Northwest and other greater Houston areas Parent-led information, referral, education, and support groups for families with children who have disabilities. http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org/</p>	713-466-6304
<p>Friends and Families of Asians with Special Needs– Central/Southwest A group for Asian families with special needs that provides seminars, information sharing, structured activities and family events. http://www.ffasn.org/</p>	281-840-8435
<p>Houston Commission on Disabilities - Central 12 members appointed by the mayor of Houston. They meet monthly every second Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. At the Metropolitan Multiservice Center located at 1475 W Gray Street and the public is allowed to attend. For those who want to participate in the future direction of disability services in Houston this meeting is highly recommended http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/commission.html</p>	713-803-1075
<p>Jewish Community Center of Houston – Southwest Houston Various cultural and social programs for special needs children, "Nite Owls" for special needs adults, and "Keshet & The Bureau of Jewish Education "for parents and professionals involved in special education. http://www.jcchouston.org/programs/special-needs-programs</p>	713-729-3200
<p>March of Dimes - Central Organization whose mission is to prevent birth defects, including preventable disabilities. http://www.marchofdimes.com/texas</p>	713-623-2020
<p>Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) - Central Regulates city services and advocates for the rights and needs of persons with disabilities in Houston http://www.houstontx.gov/disabilities/index.html</p>	713-284-1990
<p>United Cerebral Palsy – Central (Now Easter Seals Disability Services) provides respite services and activities for children with all types of disabilities http://www.eastersealshouston.org/</p>	713-838-9050

Local**Disability Information and Support Groups by Specific Types of Disabilities****Attention Deficit Disorder/ADHD**

Attention Deficit Disorders Association – *Southern Region, Multiple Support Group Sites* 281-897-0982
Information and support for people affected by ADD/ADHD. See website for current support group listings
<http://www.adda-sr.org>

Assessment of Attentional Difficulties at Texas Children's Hospital – *Medical Center* 832-822-3700
Evaluation, intervention and treatment planning.
<http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Psychology/Services/>

Autism/Asperger Syndrome/Pervasive Developmental Disorder

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapists (Private) (website only)
Families for Early Autism Treatment (see below listing) maintains a list of private ABA Therapists in Houston
<http://www.feathouston.org/resources/private-providers-public-services/in-home-providers/>

ASPIE: Asperger Syndrome Parent-Professional Information Exchange - *Sugarland* 281-404-9976
Support groups for families of individuals with Asperger syndrome and for persons with Asperger syndrome. Two support groups available: one for parents & professionals, and one for adults with autism. Both meetings held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month
<http://www.aspieinfo.com>

The Autism Center at the Children's Learning Institute. 713-500-3600
Assessment and clinical resources for children with autism spectrum disorders
<http://www.childrenslearninginstitute.org/duncan-programs/Autism-Center/>

Autism Society – Greater Houston Chapter – *Medical Center* 713-513-7575
Monthly parent support group meeting as well as a newsletter
<http://www.houstonchapterasa.org/>

Texana Behavior Improvement Center – *Fort Bend/Sugarland* 281 329-1328
Interventions for people with PDD/Autism, and MR, using Applied Behavior Analysis techniques. Formerly BTTC.
http://www.texanacenter.com/bttc_day_treatment/base_bic.cfm?Nav=BIC

Center For Autism and Developmental Disabilities 281-283-3437
Training for professionals , children's assessment and treatment services for severe problem behaviors, counseling for couples of children with autism spectrum disorders
<http://hsh.uhcl.edu/CADD>

C.L.A.S.S. Clinic 713-486-2587
Specializes in children, adolescents and adults with Asperger Disorders. Evaluations and treatment offerings
<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/chdr/CLASSclinic/index.html>

The Coffee House – A service of MHMRA - *Southwest* 713-970-8217
For individuals with Asperger/Autism Disorder and limited cognitive delays. Social skills training, transitional support, prevocational training, individualized treatment plans
<http://www.mhmraharris.org/MRServices.asp>

Connections Center - *Bellaire* 713-838-1362
Information, training, family based programs and curriculum for those who have an autism spectrum disorder
<http://www.rdiconnect.com>

Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT) – *Central and other Houston area locations* 281-361-3328
Information about autism, local resources, and support groups
<http://www.feathouston.org>

Focus Initiative – *Woodlands, West Houston Stafford* 281-240-0663
Skills training, advocacy and family consultation for autism spectrum concerns
<http://www.asdfocus.com>

Houston Autism Disability Network – *Woodlands/Conroe* 832-341-3394
Information and parent support group
<http://www.hadn.org/>

Local**Page 7****MHMRA (Mental Health mental Retardation Authority) – Central/Southwest**

713-970-7070

Services include those for persons with intellectual disabilities, autism, and other developmental disorders, as well as services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees the HCS Medicaid waiver program. Services for qualified individuals with autism spectrum disorders includes ABA programs, SKIP program, Coffee House, day habilitation, and employment training
<http://www.mhmrharris.org/>

The Shape of Behavior – Various locations

832-358-2655

Center-based program providing 30 hours per week of one-on-one ABA therapy to children ages 18-months and up. Six locations
<http://www.shapeofbehavior.com>

Texas Autism Advocacy – Web presence only

(website only)

Source of information and resources for autism compiled by a local Houston area parent
<http://www.facebook.com/TexasAutismAdvocacy>
<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/Texas-Autism-Advocacy/>

Blind/ Vision Impaired**Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Technology – Houston Office**

713-802-3100

Range of services for vision impairments
<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dbs/offices/OfficeLocator.aspx?div=4>

Houston Council of the Blind

713-520-9237

Nonprofit, membership based, information, support and education
<http://www.acbt-houston.org>

The Lighthouse of Houston

713-527-9561

Non-profit dedicated to assisting blind and visually impaired people to live independently. The Lighthouse of Houston offers a variety of education, rehabilitation and community programs.
<http://www.houstonlighthouse.org/>

Sight into Sound

713-622-2767

Non-profit organization with a mission to "Turn Sight into Sound" by enriching the lives of people with visual, physical, and learning disabilities.
<http://www.tapingfortheblind.org/>

Cerebral Palsy**Easter Seals Disability Services (formerly UCP Houston) – Various Locations**

713-838-9058

Provides services for children and adults with disabilities, including therapeutic programs, social and leisure activities, and caregiver respite.
<http://www.eastersealshouston.org>

Deaf/ Hearing Impairment**Center for Hearing and Speech**

713-523-3633

Clinic, school, classes, family support services, including a parent support group for families and children with hearing impairments
<http://www.centerhearingandspeech.org/>

Deaf Houston Post

(website only)

A newspaper for those with hearing impairments
<http://www.deafhoustonpost.com/>

Deaf Network of Texas

(website only)

Web network of links, blogs and information regarding deaf services
<http://deafnetwork.com/wordpress/blog/2007/11/09/medicaid-and-medicare/>

Houston Association for Communication Disorders

713-623-8424

Organization for speech and hearing disorders. Monthly support groups, conferences and outreach.
<http://www.hacd.org/>

SignShares

713-869-4373

Translation, interpretation, training services to help people effectively communicate during activities and daily living
<http://signshares.com/>

Local**Page 8****Down Syndrome****Down Syndrome Association of Houston – Various Locations**

Information, parent support groups, respite and other services for people affected by Down Syndrome

713-682-7237

www.dsah.org**Down Syndrome Clinic of Houston**

Evaluation, referral, tracking and treatment clinic for children with Down Syndrome. Part of Texas Children's Hospital. Open Monday and Tuesday mornings.

832-822-3478

<http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Developmental-Pediatrics/Down-Syndrome/>**Epilepsy****The Baylor Comprehensive Epilepsy and Sleep Disorder Center**

Comprehensive evaluation for individuals with epilepsy.

713-798-8259

<http://www.bcm.edu/neurology/epilepsy/index.cfm?PMID=13966>**Epilepsy Foundation of Texas**

Support groups, information and referral, public awareness presentations, recreation programs

713-789-6295

www.eftx.org**Texas Comprehensive Epilepsy Center**

Comprehensive care for people with epilepsy and other seizure disorders

713-500-7117

www.uth.tmc.edu/schools/med/neurology/specialty-programs/TCEP/**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders****The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter**

FASD brochures, training, information and referral, educational outreach provided.

713-957-1600

<http://www.aogh.org/>**The Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston**

Classes, information and referral, prevention, case management and support groups. They also have the K.I.N.D.E.R. Rx Clinic for children who have been exposed to drugs (281-200-9123).

713-942-4100

www.council-houston.org/[http://www.council-houston.org/Public/index.asp?page_ID=328\(forChildren's Clinical Services\)](http://www.council-houston.org/Public/index.asp?page_ID=328(forChildren's%20Clinical%20Services))**Houston Area Partnership for FASD**

Volunteer Partnership of organizations supporting FASD services. Facilitates parent support group

(website only)

<http://www.hapforfasd.org/>**March of Dimes - Central**

Organization whose mission is to prevent birth defects, including preventable disabilities such as FASDs.

713-623-2020

www.marchofdimes.com/texas**Intellectual Disabilities Needs Council of Harris County**

Free, downloadable brochure addressing F.A.S.D.s. A consortium of local agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting the supports and services necessary for improving the lives of those with FASDs, intellectual disabilities and related cognitive, developmental disabilities.

713-680-8195

<http://www.iddnc.org/>**Intellectual Disability****The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter**

Information and referral. Social, leisure and respite programs for persons with developmental disabilities. Special education assistance for families of children with all types of disabilities (free). Parent support groups. Familias Hispanas Spanish speaking parent support group. Also Self-Advocates support group for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

713-957-1600

www.aogh.org**Texana Behavior Improvement Center (formerly BTTC) – Southwest/Fort Bend and other locations**

Therapeutic interventions for people with PDD/Autism, and ID, using Applied Behavior Analysis techniques.

281-239-1328

http://www.texanacenter.com/bttc_day_treatment/base_bic.cfm?Nav=BIC**Down Syndrome Association of Houston – Various Locations**

Information and support for people affected by Down Syndrome.

713-682-7237

www.dsah.org

Local**Page 9****Dual Diagnosis Services – MHMRA**

713-970-7070

Must have a developmental disability such as an autism spectrum disorder or an intellectual disability and a co-occurring mental health diagnosis. Assessment, treatment, day programs, medication monitoring (ages 18+)

<http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/iddualdxsvc.htm>

Grupo de Apoyo – East Houston

713-921-3036

Support group for families of those with intellectual disabilities and/or a dual diagnosis. Families with children having other disabilities are welcome to attend. Spanish speaking only group. The contact person is Faustino Lopez.

Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) – Various Locations

713-970-7070

Service to persons with intellectual disabilities, autism, and other developmental disorders, and services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees several waiver programs.

www.mhmraharris.org

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Needs Council of Harris County (formerly the Mental Retardation Needs Council)

713-680-8195

A consortium of local agencies and organizations dedicated to promoting the supports and services necessary for improving the lives of those with intellectual and related, cognitive developmental disabilities.

www.iddnc.org

Language/ Speech Impairment**Houston Association for Communication Disorders**

713-623-8424

Organization for speech and hearing disorders, monthly support groups, conferences and outreach.

<http://www.hacd.org/>

The Parish School – West Houston

713-467-4696

Day school for children with communication and learning difficulties, who have average to above average learning potential, ages 18 months through fifth grade.

www.parishschool.org

Learning Disabilities**International Dyslexia Association -The Houston Branch**

832-282-7154

Information and referral, newsletter and trainings

<http://www.houstonida.org/>

Texas Reading Institute/ Family Literacy – West Houston

713-784-7373

Extensive reading programs for students with all types of reading difficulties. Comprehensive assessments available for reading disorders.

www.familyliteracy.net/

Neuhaus Education Center - Central

713-664-7676

Provides parent information, some trainings and links to trained reading tutors. In depth training and certification for special education professionals in reading intervention.

www.neuhaus.org

Mental Illness**Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Houston – Multiple Locations**

713-600-1131

Information, referral, and support groups for persons with mood disorders.

www.dbsahouston.org

The Gathering Place – Multiple Locations

713-729-3799

*Free. *Provides a supportive environment for adults with mental illness, to practice social skills, find support, develop friendships.

<http://gplace.org/>

Harris County Psychiatric Center

713-741-5000

Various inpatient and outpatient, mental health services as well as a useful links page on the website

<http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu/>

Menninger Clinic (at Baylor College of Medicine) – Medical Center

713-275-5140

Comprehensive treatment for adults and adolescents with complex mental illness (co-occurring conditions), specializing in anxiety and eating disorders.

www.menningerclinic.com

Local**Page 10****Mental Health Association - Southwest**

713-523-8963

Educational training concerning mental health issues; legislative advocacy. Their resource guide contains many residential placement options, hospitals, and psychiatrists.

www.mhahouston.org

Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) – Various Locations

713-970-7070

Provides service to persons with intellectual disabilities, autism, and other developmental disorders, and services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees several waiver programs for children with disabilities.

www.mhmraharris.org

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) – Various Locations

713-970-4419

Information and referral, support groups, multi-week courses including *Visions for Tomorrow*

www.namimetrohouston.org

Visions for Tomorrow – Various Locations

512-693-2000

This family-to-family class provides a great deal of useful information about specific disorders, advocacy, coping, rehabilitation as well as other concerns for caregivers of children with brain disorders (disorders include mental health as well as cognitive/learning impairments). A program of National Alliance on Mental Illness

Muscular Dystrophy**Muscular Dystrophy Association**

713-522-3941

Support groups in the greater Houston area for individuals and their families affected by any of the 40 neuromuscular diseases.

<http://mda.org/office/houston-metro> (Also on Facebook and Twitter)

Tourette Syndrome**Tourette Syndrome Association of Texas – Multiple Locations**

281-238-8096

Information, referral, and support for families affected by Tourette Syndrome.

www.tourettetexas.org

Child Care**Child Care Licensing (TDFPS) – Austin (Statewide)**

512-438-4800

Online search tool for childcare providers by county or city, age of child, type of care requested., and other variables. Search can be limited to "special needs" only. Also provides information about childcare licensing standards and procedures in Texas.

www.txchildcaresearch.org

Collaboratives for Children – West Houston

713-365-0313

Parent and community education regarding child care issues. On-line or telephone referral for child care services to meet specific family needs. Services available in Spanish.

<http://www.collabforchildren.org>

Education**Private School Options****The Arbor School – West Houston**

713-827-8830

Intensive intervention, ages birth through 12. Accepts children with developmental delays, or other medical conditions that place them at risk of developing developmental delay.

www.arbor.org

Avondale House – Southwest Houston

713-993-9544

Day school education, day habilitation programs and residential care for persons with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders.

<http://www.avondalehouse.org/>

The Briarwood School – West Houston

281-493-1070

Nonprofit independent school providing education for children with learning disabilities and developmental delays. Grades K-12. Also has summer learning program.

www.briarwoodschool.org

The Caroline School

713-838-9050

For children with significant developmental delays (cognitive and physical). Easter Seals (formerly UCP) service

<http://www.eastersealshouston.org/Children/the-caroline-school-a-day-program.html>

Local**Page 11****The Harris School**

Preschool thru grade 8, for children who have average to above average intelligence and have emotional, attentional, behavioral disabilities such as ADHD and Asperger Syndrome
<http://theharrisschool.com/>

713-526-2046

Hope Village - Friendswood

Residential facility for students with intellectual disabilities, ages 6 through adult. Also day and summer programs for children with intellectual disabilities. Sheltered workshop available.
www.hope-village.com

281-482-7926

Houston Learning Academy – Multiple Locations

Day school for children with learning disabilities, emotional disturbance, or other disabilities. Ages 14 to 19.
www.hlahighschools.com

281-537-6433

Houston Outdoor Learning Academy (HOLA) - Heights

Accredited school offering individualized curricula with a focus on activity- based, outdoor learning. Grades 6-12. Accepts children with or without disabilities.
www.holainfo.com

713-224-4652

Houston Area Independent Schools

An online guide to private schools, after school activities, specialists, camps, and child-care in the greater Houston area. Sponsored by the Greater Houston Partnership.
www.houstonprivateschools.org

(website only)

The Joy School

Summer school and tutoring for children with learning differences.
www.thejoyschool.org

713-523-0660

The Learning Repertoire - Pearland

Behavior and learning programs for children with autism and developmental disorders, based on the principals of Applied Behavior Analysis.
<http://learningrepertoire.org/>

713-355-0623

The Monarch School – West Houston/Spring Branch

School provides a therapeutic education for children with neurological differences. K-12.
www.monarchschool.org

713-479-0800

New School in the Heights - Central

For students with ADHD, OCD, Tourettes., Asperger Disorder and other socio-emotional learning disabilities. School program and social skills programs
<http://www.newschooheights.org/index.cfm>

713-802-1256

The Parish School – West Houston/Spring Branch

Day school for children with communication and learning difficulties, who have average to above average learning potential, ages 18 months through fifth grade.
www.parishschool.org

713-467-4696

Providence Treatment Center – Missouri City

Day school and treatment center for children, youths, and young adults with autism, bipolar disorder, major depression, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and multiple impairments. TEA approved non-public school.
www.providencetreatmentcenter.com

281-208-1117

The Redd School – Northwest Houston

Day school for children with learning differences and emotional issues. PreK-8.
www.reddschool.com

281-440-1106

The Rise School – Medical Center Area

Day school providing early childhood education services to children with Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities and to children without disabilities. Ages 6 months to 6 years.
www.riseschool.org/houston

713-532-7473

The Shape of Behavior

Provides individual and data based treatment to children with special needs related to autism, Asperger's disorder, Down Syndrome, learning disabilities, ADHD, intellectual disabilities, abuse, emotional problems and any other children with special needs. Six locations throughout Houston and outer suburbs.
www.shapeofbehavior.com

832-358-2655

Verbal Behavior Clinic of Houston – Friendswood & Houston

Individualized instruction in Verbal Behavior & Applied Behavior Analysis methods. Behavioral & learning programs for children with mild to severe disabilities including PDD, autism, Asperger's Syndrome, ADD and other disabilities.
www.tullisfarmschool.org

713-528-2343

Local**Page 12****The Westview School – West Houston**

713-973-1900

Day school for children with PDD/autism and other communication interactional disorders, using a multisensory curriculum emphasizing each child's strengths. Age 2 through middle school.

www.westviewschool.org

Educational Advocacy and Law: Free Services**Disability Rights Texas: East Region** (formerly Advocacy, Inc.) – *Multiple Location*

713-974-7691

Provides direct advocacy services including special education for individuals with disabilities. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education concerns. Services available in Spanish.

www.disabilityrightstx.org

The Arc: The Right to Learn Program/Central/ Northwest Houston

713-957-1600

Provides direct special education consultation, assistance, and training for parents of children involved in the special education process. Trainings for professionals also offered. Houston chapter.

www.aogh.org

Family to Family Network

713-466-6304

Parent run organization that can provide phone assistance regarding some special education concerns.

<http://www.familytofamilynetwork.org>

Lighthouse Learning & Resource

832-478-5555

Advocacy services, direct Social and leisure programs, tutoring

www.lhlearningresource.com

TEAM Project

713-524-2147

Parent staffed organization. Special Education phone assistance. Trainings.

<http://www.partnerstx.org/projects/TEAM/index.htm>

Private Special Education Attorneys**C. Michael Black**

713-522-5999

<http://www.cmblack-lawyer.com/>

Martin Cirkiel

512-244-6658

<http://www.cirkielaw.com/index.html>

Ernie Hill

713-686-6600

carlos99@yahoo.com

Christopher L. Jonas

361-937-1801

<http://www.christopherjonas-specialeducationlawyer.com/index.htm>

Dorene Jackson Philpot

281-989-2010

<http://www.dphilpotlaw.com/>

Private Special Education Advocates (Not Attorneys)**Louis H. Geigerman, Barbara Kluchin and Sidney Wohlman, National ARD/IEP Advocates**

281-265-1506

<http://www.narda.org>

Special Education Advocate - Jimmy Kilpatrick

832-814-7463

<http://www.ldadvocates.com>

Higher Education Resources**Houston Community College Disability Support Services – Spring Branch**

713-718-5422

Coordinates accommodations for students with disabilities at Houston Community College.

<http://northwest.hccs.edu/northwest/campus-services/disability-support-services>

LoneStar College– North Harris, Montgomery Country and others

281-290-2708

Information on accommodations and other services for students with disabilities.

<http://www.lonestar.edu/disability-services.htm>

Prairie View A&M, Office of Disability Services – Prairie View

936-261-3585

Provides assistance with necessary accommodations for students with disabilities attending Prairie View A&M.

<http://www.pvamu.edu/pages/4016.asp>

Local**Page 13****Rice Disability Support Services – Rice University**

713-348-5841

Provides and facilitates support services and accommodations for all individuals with disabilities on the Rice University campus, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

<http://dss.rice.edu/Content.aspx?id=42>

San Jacinto College North Disability Support - San Jacinto College North (East Houston)

281-998-6150

Vocational opportunities and support for students with disabilities.

<http://www.sanjac.edu/current-students/student-support/disability-assistance>

University of Houston Center for Students with Disabilities - Central

713-743-5400

Provides numerous academic support services to students with any type of learning disability, health impairment, physical limitation or psychiatric disorder at the University of Houston.

<http://www.uh.edu/csd>

VAST Program (Vocational Advancement & Social Skills Training) – Houston Community College

713-718-6833

Educational opportunities for individuals who have learning, developmental, and/or physical disabilities. Courses are offered in the following areas: Academic, Personal/Social Development, Enrichment and Computers.

<http://vast.hccs.edu/>

Other Education Resources**Discover Technology**

(website only)

Computer information and linked laboratories for persons with mental, physical, or other disabilities.

www.discovertechnology.com

Harris County Department of Education

713-694-6300

Information about public education services in Harris County.

www.hcde-texas.org

Region IV Education Service Center (TEA)

713-462-7708

Supports public school teachers and staff. Trainings for professionals and parents offered. Their special education library is open for use by all education professionals.

<http://www.esc4.net>

Employment/ Day Habilitation**All the Little Things Count – Multiple Locations**

281-393-1719

Day habilitation program with sheltered workshop, for HCS recipients from Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Montgomery, and Wharton counties

<http://www.allthelittlethingscount.org/>

American Habilitation Services – South Houston

800-622-2077

Supported employment primarily for HCS (Medicaid waiver program) recipients

www.ahsonline.com

Bay Area Rehabilitation Center/Baytown Opportunity Center - Baytown

281-838-4477

Supervised work training, structured workshops and classrooms.

<http://www.bayarearehab.org/>

Bethesda/Good Samaritan - Cypress

281-516-4021

Supported employment for HCS recipients

www.blhs.org

The Brookwood Community - Brookshire

281-375-2100

A residential community of adults with disabilities providing life skills, social, and vocational training

<http://brookwoodcommunity.org>

The Center (CRI) - Central

713-525-8400

Adult activity center providing day habilitation with a sheltered workshop

www.cri-usa.org

Goodwill of Houston: Employment Services – North Houston

713-692-6221

Job training, placement, and support for persons with disabilities

<http://www.goodwillhouston.org/employment.htm>

Gulf Coast Community Services Association – Multiple Locations

713-393-4700

Adult literacy, GED, and ESL classes. Employment training and support services --- available in Spanish

<http://www.gulfcoastcommunityservicesassociation.org/outreachoverview.html>

Local**Page 14****H.E.A.R.T. Program**

713-692-4278

Specific vocational training program for gainful employment of individuals with developmental disabilities including intellectual disabilities and autism.

www.heartprogram.org

Hope Village - Friendswood

281-482-7926

Residential and day programs, including a developmental work center, for individuals with intellectual and other related developmental disabilities.

www.hope-village.com

Lighthouse Vocational Educational Program (Lighthouse Houston)

713-284-8422

Vocational training for individuals with visual impairments. Also provides some adult day programming for individuals who are not able to maintain employment independently.

<http://www.houstonlighthouse.org/education-programs/#vocational>

Mayor's Committee for Employment of Persons w/Disabilities

(website only)

Provides support to job seekers with disabilities, and to employers.

<http://www.hmcepd.org/>

MHMRA (Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority)

713-970-7070

Various vocational programs for persons diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder or intellectual disabilities. Services available in Spanish

www.mhmraharris.org

Nightingale Vocational Rehabilitation Center—Southwest Houston

713-981-1543

Vocational rehabilitation

Reach Unlimited

281-469-8058

Vocation skills, independent living, day habilitation offered.

www.reachunlimited.org

Sean Ashley House – Southwest Houston

713-667-6460

Adult day habilitation program for HCS (Medicaid waiver) recipients with individualized life skills training. Accepts non-HCS recipients also

www.seanashleyhouse.org

Techs and Trainers – Southwest Houston

713-839-7177

Technology and skills training covering computer rebuilding

<http://www.techsandtrainers.org/>

Texana Mental Health Mental Retardation Center – Rosenberg

281-342-0090

Supported employment for persons with intellectual disabilities and/or mental illness

http://www.texanacenter.com/base_dd.cfm?Nav=DD

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services – Multiple Locations

800-628-5115

Provides vocational assessments, training, support, and assistive devices for individuals with disabilities who are seeking employment.

www.dars.state.tx.us

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/offices/OfficeLocator.aspx> (for Houston rehabilitation locations)

The Village Learning Center – Kingwood

281-358-6172

Life skills & job training for persons with learning disabilities & developmental delays.

<http://www.villagelac.org>

Willow River Farms – Brookshire

713-525-8400

A residential community of adults with disabilities, an emphasis on artistic, craft, and gardening vocational skills.

<http://www.cri-usa.org/en/cms/?69>

VAST (Vocational Advancement and Social Skills Training) Program of HCC Various Locations

713-718-6833

Educational opportunities for individuals who have learning, developmental, and/or physical disabilities. Courses are offered in the following areas: Academic, Personal/Social Development, Enrichment and Computers.

<http://vast.hccs.edu/>

Financial-Needs - Disability Related Financial Services

See [State Financial Assistance Resources](#) (pg. 24-25)

Guardianship and Estate Planning

Guardianship Information Booklet

Free online resource provided by *The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter*. Covers basics of alternatives to guardianship, guardianship, special needs trusts and other transition to adulthood information.

<http://www.aogh.org/images/pdf/nfinktobastemp/GuardAndAlternatAug2011.pdf>

(website only)

Attorneys

Marissa Garcia (Spanish Speaking)

713-201-9740

Michele Goldberg

713-218-8800

Wright Abshire Attorneys

<http://www.wrightabshire.com/>

713-961-9595

Lisa Wilson

<http://www.hayeswilsonlaw.com/Bio/LisaWilson.asp>

281-583-0353

Non-Attorney Guardianship and Estate Planning Assistance

Steve Rhatigan

steve@stemark.com

713-572-1717

The Arc of Texas, Master Pooled Trust, Chris Oglesby

www.thearcoftexas.org

800-252-9729

Housing and Home Modification/Accessibility

Coalition for Barrier Free Living – Southwest Houston & Angleton

Housing advice, assistance and counseling for persons with disabilities.

<http://www.coalitionforbarrierfreeliving.com/>

713-974-4621

Gulf Coast Community Services Association – Multiple Locations

The Home & Safety Security Program conducts homes inspections for elderly persons or persons with disabilities to check for safety and security concerns. Includes installation of wheelchair ramps, and basic repairs.

<http://www.gulfcoastcommunityservicesassociation.org/outreachoverview.html>

713-393-4700

Texas Home of your Own Coalition, [formerly Home of Your Own Program (HOYO)]

Down payment assistance, home modification funds, and home buying education classes for individuals with disabilities, and their families. Services available in Spanish.

<http://www.eastersealshouston.org/Adults/housing-initiative.html>

713-838-9050

Private Providers Association of Texas

Organization of private group home providers in Texas

www.ppat100.com

512-452-8188

General Legal Issues (See also - Educational Advocacy & Law)

Disability Rights Texas: East Region (formerly Advocacy, Inc.)

Provides direct advocacy services including employment advocacy for individuals with disabilities. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The website has great, down loadable publications on a variety of special education and other legal concerns. Services available in **Spanish**.

www.disabilityrightstx.org

713-974-7691

Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program

www.hvlp.org

713-228-0732

Lone Star Legal Aid

Some guardianship, and special education cases have been taken in the past

<http://www.lonestarlegal.org/>

<http://www.lonestarlegal.org/Types-of-Cases.pl>

713-652-0077

DisputeResolutionCenter

<http://www.harriscountytexas.gov/drc/>

713-755-8274

Local**Page 16****Houston Lawyer Referral Service**

713-237-9429

<http://hlrs.org/>**Legal Line**

713-759-1133

Free phone advice on 1st & 3rd Wednesday, each month, 5-9 pm<http://www.hba.org/folder-services/services.htm#legalline>**Consejos Legales**

713-755-1133

Spanish-version of Legal Line, 1st Thursday each month, 6-8pm**Medical Equipment & Adaptive Technology****Medco – Multiple Locations**

800 245-3816

Feeding supplies including formula, tubes, pumps. Also have incontinent supplies and suction equipment

<http://www.e-medco.com/>**Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services (DARS) Formerly Texas Rehabilitation Commission (TRC) –**

713-735-3470

Vocational services including adaptive equipment (available to some graduating school students and older) with disabilities who will need assistance in gaining employment. Applicant guide available in Spanish.

www.dars.state.tx.us<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/drs/RehabTechLab.shtml>Spanish: www.dars.state.tx.us/Spanish.shtml**Respite****Local/State Agencies and Nonprofit Organizations that provide respite****Most of these have income requirements as well as disability related requirements. Check with each organization for specifics.****The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter**

713-957-1600

Ongoing, group respite activities in the community for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Children and adults served by differing programs. Fees for programs. Activities include: Saturday Fun Day, Adventure Club/Greater Houston Recreation, Weekend Respite, Summer-day and overnight camps.

www.aogh.org**The Center**

713-525-8400

Day and overnight respite services for people with intellectual disabilities. Day respite is available on a partial or full day basis.

Overnight respite stays cannot exceed 30 days. Fee for services.

www.cri-usa.org**MHMRA of Harris County**

713-970-7616

All respite services require intake completion and there is typically a fairly long waiting list. However, they provide a wide range of respite services, including in-home respite if the individual qualifies. An intellectual disability and or an Autism spectrum diagnosis is required. Financial assistance if qualified.

<http://www.mhmraharris.org/IDD/networkmanagement.htm>**Easter Seals of Greater Houston (formerly UCP Houston)**

713-838-9050

They provide respite services for individuals with Cerebral Palsy and other disabilities. Financial assistance may be provided in some cases. Respite activities include ongoing programs as well as in-home respite services.

www.eastersealshouston.org**Social & Leisure****Adventure Club of The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter**

713-957-1600

Community-based activities for individuals with developmental disabilities, ages 15 and older. Activities are age appropriate (bowling, sporting events, theater, shopping excursions, and more).

<http://www.aogh.org/AdventureClub.html>**Best Buddies – Various Locations**

713-525-8478

This program operates at several high school and colleges, to bring together students with and without intellectual difficulties for meaningful one-on-one relationships. There is also an e-buddies program for internet-capable students.

www.bestbuddiestexas.org**Dionysus Theatre Troupe – Southwest Houston**

713-728-0041

Provides a theatre experience for teens and young adults who are disabled, disadvantaged, chronically ill, or those able-bodied actors who want to help us spread our message of love, dignity and tolerance for people of all abilities.

www.dionysustheatre.org

Local**Page 17****Dream Catcher Stables – Spring**

281-216-3494

Sliding scale. Recreational horseback riding for persons with disabilities, including learning disabilities.

www.dreamcatcherstables.org**Kids on the Block Puppet Troupe (Assistance League of Houston)**

713-526-7983

A puppet show that teaches disability awareness to children. Performs at schools in HISD and Spring Branch.

http://www.assistanceleaguehou.org/ps_projects.cfm?ID=2470**Metropolitan Multi-Service Center – Central**

713-284-1973

A recreational & sports center for people of all ages with mental & physical disabilities.

www.houstontx.gov/parks/adaptivesports.html**Nameless Sound Music Classes – Central/Southeast**

713-928-5653

Music classes for special needs students

<http://www.namelessound.org/ensemble.html>**The River Performing and Visual Arts Center – Central**

713-520-1220

A barrier-free, affordable arts enrichment program for children aged 2-19 with disabilities and/or chronic illness, as well as their siblings and friends.

www.theriver.org**Saturday Fun Day – Central, Kingwood, & Cy-Fair**

713-957-1600

A recreational day program for children and teens with intellectual disabilities, autism, and pervasive developmental disorders, ages 4 - 21. Meets two Saturdays per month. Siblings welcome! A program of The Arc: Greater Houston Chapter.

<http://www.aogh.org/SaturdayFunDay.html>**Special Olympics – Houston**

713-290-0049

Year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons eight years of age and older with intellectual disabilities.

<http://www.sotx.org/about/areas/area04/>**Texas Adaptive Aquatics – Northeast/ Lake Houston**

281-324-4653

Some programs free. Water sports for persons with physical and mental disabilities. All ability levels.

www.taasports.org**Vern Cox Multi-purpose Center – Pasadena**

281-487-1755

A recreational sports center for people of all ages with mental and physical disabilities.

http://www.ci.pasadena.tx.us/default.aspx?name=prk.fac-v_cox**The Village Learning Center – Kingwood**

281-358-6172

Social activities & support for persons with developmental delay & learning disorders.

www.villagelac.org**Treatment Services (Behavioral and Medical)****Ask Your Nurse(Harris County)**

713-634-1110

<https://www.hchdonline.com/en/our-community/outreach-services/pages/ask-a-nurse.aspx>**Asian American Family Counseling Center – Southwest Houston**

713-600-9400

Culturally competent mental health services, information and referral for Asian Americans in Houston. Services in English, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean.

www.aafstexas.org**The Battin Clinic – Galleria area & Nassau Bay**

713-621-3072

Multidisciplinary assessment for children with neurocognitive, learning, behavioral, and emotional difficulties.

Bay Area Rehabilitation Center

281-838-4477

Aquatic therapy, adult outpatient therapy, accessible housing, pediatric therapy, and counseling services

www.bayarearehab.org**Texana Behavior Improvement Center (formally BTTC) –**

281-239-1379

Therapeutic interventions for people with PDD/Autism, and IDs (Applied Behavior Analysis techniques).

http://www.texanacenter.com/bttc_day_treatment/base_bic.cfm?Nav=BIC**Blue Bird Circle Clinic for Pediatric Neurology – Texas Children's Hospital**

832-822-5046

Specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of neurological disorders in children. Multidisciplinary approach provides comprehensive care to children and families.

www.texaschildrenshospital.org/carecenters/Neuro/Neurology/Default.aspx (CNF)

Local**Page 18****The Center for Hearing and Speech – Central**

713-523-3633

Clinical and educational programs focusing on oral deaf education (encouraging speech production and recognition rather than sign language). Ages birth to 18.

www.centerhearingandspeech.org

Connections Center – Bellaire

713-838-1362

Information, training and curriculum for those who have an autism spectrum disorder.

<http://www.rdiconnect.com/>

K.I.N.D.E.Rx Clinic – Medical Center

713-942-4100

Social services for children and families affected by prenatal drug or alcohol exposure.

http://www.council-houston.org/Public/index.asp?page_ID=328

HCPC (Harris County Psychiatric Center) – Medical Center

713-741-5000

A 250-bed acute care public psychiatric hospital. Also provides partial hospitalization and outpatient services. Services provided in Spanish and Vietnamese.

<http://hcpc.uth.tmc.edu>

Menninger Clinic (at Baylor College of Medicine) – Medical Center

713-275-5000

Comprehensive treatment for adults and adolescents with complex mental illness (co-occurring conditions), specializing in anxiety and eating disorders.

<http://www.menningerclinic.com/>

Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) – Various Locations

713-970-7070

Provides service to persons with intellectual disabilities, autism, and other developmental disorders, and services to persons with severe mental illness. This agency oversees several Medicaid waiver programs for people with developmental disabilities.

www.mhmraharris.org

Meyer Center for Developmental Pediatrics – Texas Children's Hospital

832-822-3400

The Meyer Center provides diagnosis and individualized treatment planning for infants, children and adolescents with suspected developmental and/or learning problems. Provides written treatment plans and testing to parents and referring physicians.

<http://www.texaschildrens.org/Locate/Departments-and-Services/Developmental-Pediatrics/Meyer-Center-for-Developmental-Pediatrics/>

Multiple Sclerosis Comprehensive Care Center – Baylor College of Medicine

713-798-5971

Comprehensive patient care, research, and referrals for persons with multiple sclerosis. Services available in Spanish.

<http://www.bcm.edu/neurology/ms/>

SIRE – Hockley, Spring

281-358-7588

Sliding scale. Therapeutic horseback riding for persons with disabilities

<http://sire-htec.org>

TIRR (The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research) – Multiple Locations

713-799-5000

Interdisciplinary rehabilitation services, patient care, medical education, and research. Provides a complete continuum of care for patients needing medical rehabilitation.

<http://www.memorialhermann.org/locations/TIRR.html>

Winter & Associates Pediatric Rehabilitation Center – Southwest Houston

713-528-3030

A comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility for children, providing occupational, physical, and speech therapy. Provides transportation to those who qualify. Services provided in English, Spanish, Chinese, Cantonese, and Italian.

www.winterpediatrictherapy.com

Transportation/ Accessible Transportation**Metro Lift**

713-225-6716

Information about the accessibility of Houston Metro system, and how to use Metro Lift services.

<http://www.ridemetro.org/services/lift.aspx>

Other Need Support- General, not specifically disability related**Basic Needs Support****Community Youth Services Resource Directory**

(website only)

A wealth of information about Houston area programs serving children and families, including basic needs support, medical, psychological, and legal resources.

http://www.hc-ps.org/CYS_Resource_Directory.pdf

Local**Page 19****ECHOS (Epiphany Community Health Outreach Services) – Southwest Houston**

713-270-0369

This program helps people without insurance gain access to existing health and social services, regardless of ability to pay or immigration status.

www.echos-houston.org

Gateway to Care – Harris County

713-783-4616

Information, low-cost community health care services for the uninsured and underinsured in Harris County.

<http://www.gatewaytocare.org/>

Harris County Health System (Gold Card referral)

713-873-2000

A Harris County Hospital District program which provides access to county hospital and health services for persons with extremely low income. Call the above number for eligibility determination (part of the Ben Taub system)

<https://www.harrishealth.org/en/patients/access-care/eligibility-card/pages/default.aspx>

Gulf Coast Community Services Association – Multiple Locations

713-393-4700

Basic needs assistance, including food pantry, clothing, prescription vouchers, bus tokens for employment, and employment training.

<http://www.gccsa.org/>

Summer Food Service Program – Multiple Locations

713-676-6832

Free, Provides nutritious meals free to all children age 18 and younger at participating food sites. Does not require proof of income or registration. Services available in Spanish. For additional information call Summer Food Hotline at 2.1.1.

<http://www.houstontx.gov/parks/summerfood.html>

Crisis Services

In an emergency call 911 (Call 911 for an ambulance, the police, or the fire department during emergencies.)

Adult Protective Services

800-252-5400

Investigates abuse and neglect of adults with disabilities, including financial exploitation, neglect by caregivers, and self-neglect.

<http://www.txabusehotline.org/Login/Default.aspx>

Casa de Esperanza – Medical Center Area

713-529-0639

Voluntary foster care for children ages zero to 6 who are at risk of abuse or neglect due to family crisis and/or the child's special needs. Casework services provided to the family to develop a safe, stable environment for the child's return.

www.casahope.org

Child Protective Services

800-252-5400

Investigates the abuse and neglect of children, including medical neglect. Provides services to families in crisis.

<http://www.txabusehotline.org/Login/Default.aspx>

Crisis Intervention of Houston713.HOTLINE
(713.468.5463)

Provides 24-hour crisis counseling by telephone. Also provides community education programs.

www.crisishotline.org

Houston Area Women's Center

713-528-6978

Provides shelter, counseling, and support services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Services available in Spanish.

<http://www.hawc.org>

General Childhood**Child Builders**

713-481-6555

Non-profit organization advocating for children's mental health and emotional wellness. Provides parents and children with resources and life skills training to build healthy families.

www.childbuilders.org

General Cultural Health Care Resources**Arab-American Cultural and Community Center – Southwest Houston**

832-351-3366

Cultural and social programs, including free health screenings. Services available in Arabic.

www.acchouston.org

Community Family Center – East Houston

713-923-2316

Various community programs including health care and counseling. Services available in Spanish.

www.communityfamilycenters.org

Local**Page 20****Chinese Community Center – West Houston**

713-271-6100

Referral and support for Asian-Americans and Asian immigrants to Houston. Offers some health, education and caregiver support services. Services available in Chinese.

www.ccchouston.org

Vietnamese Culture and Science Association

281-933-8118

Provides cultural, health and educational programs for the Vietnamese community. Services available in Vietnamese.(Website is English only.)

www.vhkhvn.org

State Resources of Texas

General Information and Support

All Disabilities/All Special Needs Inclusive Services & Information

<p>Adapt of Texas Organization advocating to free people with disabilities from nursing homes and other institutions. http://adaptoftexas.org</p>	512-442-0252
<p>Disability Rights Texas Advocates, protects and advances the legal and service rights of people with disabilities by providing direct advocacy services. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education concerns. Services and some web information is available in Spanish. www.disabilityrightstx.org</p>	800-252-9108
<p>Coalition of Texans with Disabilities(CTD) A grass roots organization that brings together diverse disability individuals and groups, as well as related parties like service provider organizations and state agencies. www.cotwd.org</p>	512-478-3366
<p>(The) Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) One of five Texas state agencies for social services. They serve older Texans, persons with disabilities including persons with intellectual disabilities. Services can be comprehensive such as waiver services including HCS, CLASS and Texas Home Living Waiver. See <i>State Financial Assistance Section</i> (page 26 for more detail). http://www.dads.state.tx.us/index.cfm</p>	512-438-3011 800-458-9858
<p>(The) Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) One of five Texas state agencies for social services. DARS specifically offers disability services including rehabilitative services, <i>Early Childhood Intervention</i> (ECI), blind services and disability determination services. They have local offices across the state. See <i>State Financial Assistance Section</i> (page 26 for more detail). http://www.dars.state.tx.us/</p>	800-628-5115
<p>(The) Department of State Health Services Oversees <i>Children with Special Health Care Needs</i>, comprehensive outpatient services, mental health services for children and adults (the mental health side ---the Mental Health Authority---of MHMRA is now subsumed under this agency). See <i>State Financial Assistance Section</i> (page 26 for more detail). http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/default.shtm</p>	888-963-7111
<p>Early Childhood Intervention State agency responsible for early childhood (ages 0 -3) disability intervention (overseen by DARS --see the above entry also) http://www.dars.state.tx.us/index.shtml</p>	800-252-2246
<p>Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities Division of the governor's office that provides disability resources including statistics, history, services and more http://www.governor.state.tx.us/disabilities/</p>	512-463-5739
<p>Texas Disability Law Summary of Texas Legislation affecting individuals with disabilities. http://governor.state.tx.us/disabilities/resources/</p>	512-463-5739
<p>Texas Health and Human Services Commission One of five Texas state agencies. Oversees <i>Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, food stamps and nutrition programs, family violence services, refugee services and disaster assistance</i> http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/</p>	877-541-7905
<p>Texas Information Referral (211 call line) Service of the state of Texas where the number 211 can be dialed via phone in Texas for disability information and referral about social, health and other services including state agencies. https://www.211texas.org/211/disability/home.do</p>	512-206-4787 Simply Dial 211 (if in Texas)
<p>Texas Parent to Parent Supports children with disabilities, chronic illnesses and other special needs by empowering their families to be advocates for them through peer support, resource referral and public awareness. www.txp2p.org/</p>	866-896-6001

State**Specific Types of Disability Services and Information****Autism****Texas Council on Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disabilities**

(website only)

Texas council, established by Texas legislation, appointed by the governor that serves and advocates for the needs of individuals with Autism Spectrum and related disorders.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/autism/>

Blind and Visually Impaired**Texas Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired**

(website only)

The association promotes and develops education and rehabilitation resources for those in Texas with visual impairments

<http://www.txaer.org/index.html>

Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

800-872-5273

Serves as a special public school in the continuum of statewide placements for students who have a visual impairment. Students, ages 6 through 21, who are blind, deaf-blind, or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities, are eligible for consideration for services on the TSBVI campus. It is also a statewide resource to parents of these children and the professionals who serve them, from birth through transition from school.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/>

Texas Talking Books

800-252-9605

Free. Audiotope, Braille, and large print formats for books and magazines available for loan through the Texas library system.

Materials are delivered to the home at no charge. For Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities-whether permanent or temporary.

www.tsl.state.tx.us/tbp

Brain Injury**Brain Injury Association of Texas**

512-326-1212

Information, referral and advocacy for persons affected by brain injury.

www.biatx.org

Deaf and Hearing Impairment**Deaf Network of Texas**

(website only)

Association for those with hearing impairments. Meetings, support and blogs.

<http://deafnetwork.com/wordpress/>

Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

(website only)

The Department of Rehabilitative Services runs these programs and services for those with hearing impairments

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dhhs/>

Texas Association of the Deaf

(website only)

Association for those with hearing impairments. Meetings, support and blogs.

<http://deaftexas.org/wp/>

Epilepsy**Epilepsy Foundation of Central and South Texas**

888-548-9716

Working to improve the lives of the adults and children with epilepsy in Texas.

<http://www.eftx.org/>

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders**Texas Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Consortium**

(website only)

Consortium of agencies in Texas whose goal is to increase FAS awareness. Offer meetings, conferences, and web resources.

<http://www.topdd.state.tx.us/fasd/>

Intellectual Disabilities**The Arc of Texas**

800-252-9729

Texas headquarters for The Arc, providing state and national advocacy for individuals with intellectual and other related developmental disabilities. They also publish, in conjunction with Disability Rights Texas, *It's a New IDEA* which can be downloaded for free from their website.

www.thearcoftexas.org

State**Page 23****Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities**

512-437-5432

Established by federal law. Advocates for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities through training, legislative activities and other education and support services
<http://www.txddc.state.tx.us/index.asp>

Learning Disabilities**Learning Disabilities Association of Texas**

800-604-7500

Information and support for parents regarding special education and other disability related needs in Texas
www.ldat.org

Mental Illness**Mental Health America of Texas**

512-454-3706

A broad-based citizens' movement organized to promote mental health, prevent mental illness through research and education, and improve care and treatment for persons with mental illnesses.
<http://www.mhatexas.org>

NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) Texas Branch

800-633-3760

Training and support groups for families experiencing mental illness as well as consumer support groups and psycho-educational classes
<http://namitexas.org>

Texas Mental Health Consumer Resources

(website only)

Directory of Texas mental health services from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhservices/mhconsumerfamilysupports.shtm>

Child Care**Texas Child Care Licensing (TDFPS) – Austin (Statewide)**

(website only)

Online search information regarding valid licensing for child care, revoked child care licenses and more
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Care/Search_Texas_Child_Care/CCLNET/Source/CPA/ppSearchTXChildCare2.aspx

Texas Care Resources from Texas 211

Dial 211

Contains options for searching for child care for special needs children in Texas. **Can do the search online**
<https://www.211texas.org/211/search/childcare/main.do>

Education**Association on Higher Education and Disability**

(website only)

Nonprofit organization comprised of disability service providers in higher education
<http://www.ahead.org/affiliates/texas>

Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

800-628-5115

Serves children ages birth to three who have or are at risk of developmental delays.
www.dars.state.tx.us/ecis/index.shtml

Texas Education Agency - Special Education

512-463-9414

A great source of special education laws, regulations and other educational topics under Texas Education Agency control
www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed

Educational Advocacy and Law**Disability Rights Texas (formerly Advocacy, Inc.)**

800-252-9108

Provides direct advocacy services for individuals with disabilities. However, they only take cases that fall within their chosen focus areas for a given year. The web site has great, downloadable publications on a variety of special education concerns. Services and many web publications are available in Spanish.
www.disabilityrightstx.org

IDEA: The Manual for Parents and Students about Special Education Services in Texas

(website only)

Jointly created (The Arc of Texas and Disability Rights Texas) handbook of special education law. Example letters and forms included.

The Legal Framework

432-561-4332

A project maintained by the Region 18 Texas Education Service Center- provides a guide to Texas education law as well as national education law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).Part of Texas Improvement Process.
<http://framework.esc18.net/display/Webforms/LandingPage.aspx>

State**Page 24****Office of Civil Rights- Texas Branch (US Dept. of Education)**

214-661-9600

For assistance related to civil rights in school contexts. They suggest that families e-mail or fax concerns to: E-mail: OCR.Dallas@ed.gov; FAX: 214.661.9587

Partners Resource Network

800-866-4726

Empowering Texas parents of children and youth with disabilities in their roles as parents, decision makers, and advocates for their children. www.partnerstx.org

Texas Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates

(see website)

Provides directory of attorneys and other resources for Texas special education needs and interests <http://www.topaa.org/>

Texas Project First

(website only)

TEA sponsored/parent organization created - special education, informational website. TEA compliance project in conjunction with Region 9 Education Service Center. All info is TEA approved/sanctioned. Grants provided to Family To Family Network for website creation and upkeep. www.texasprojectfirst.org

Texas Senate

(website only)

You can link to your local/state senators to weigh in on educational legislation www.senate.state.tx.us

Texas House of Representatives

(website only)

You can link to your local/state house representatives to weigh in on educational legislation www.house.state.tx.us

TEA Information Regarding Making Special Education Complaints

800-252-9668

For making complaints that concern Special Education in Texas public schools. Remember, also put complaints in writing and mail or fax them. This makes the complaint official. www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed/medcom/compinfo.html

TEA Special Education

512-463-9414

A great source of special education laws, regulations and other educational topics under Texas Education Agency control www.tea.state.tx.us/special.ed

Texas Talking Books

800-252-9605

Free. Audiotape, Braille, and large print formats for books and magazines available for loan through the Texas library system. Materials are delivered to the home at no charge. For Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities-whether permanent or temporary. www.tsl.state.tx.us/tbp

Employment**Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (formally TRC) – Multiple Locations**

800-628-5115

Provides vocational assessments, training, support, and assistive devices for individuals with disabilities who are seeking employment. www.dars.state.tx.us

Financial Assistance**Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**

877-543-7669

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission oversees this program. Low cost health insurance for children who do not qualify for Medicaid and are not covered by private insurance. Family must meet income eligibility guidelines. Web site available in Spanish.

<http://www.chipmedicaid.com/>

Spanish: <http://www.chipmedicaid.org/espanol/index.htm>

Children with Special Health Care Needs(CSHCN)-formally CIDC

800-252-8023

Texas Department of State Health Services oversees this service. For children with a chronic physical or developmental condition that will last longer than 12 months. For those with intellectual disabilities and /autism/ADHD/ and mental health disabilities there must be a co-occurring, health need related to bodily tissues such as a seizure disorder, cerebral palsy or any condition that has physical manifestations. (This funding is also available to a person of any age who has Cystic Fibrosis.). The child may have Medicaid or CHIP already but the funds from the two services must have been exhausted before CSHSN use. Web site available in Spanish.

www.dshs.state.tx.us/CSHCN/

State**Page 25****Your Texas Benefits**

(website only)

Your one-stop on-line site for discovering what state assistance programs your family qualifies for. Easy to use and comprehensive. Web site available in Spanish

<https://www.yourtexasbenefits.com/ssp/SSPHome/ssphome.jsp>

Texas Department of Insurance

800-252-3439

If your child has a disability and you are having problems with obtaining insurance then this state agency may be able to help.

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/>

Waiver Programs**Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)**

877-438-5658

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program

Provides home and community-based services as a cost effective alternative to placement in an intermediate care facility for people with related condition disabilities that affect their ability to function in daily life (ICF-MR/RC). This program is not state wide and has a long waiting list. Eligibility: No age requirements, but the individual must have had the onset of the disability (other than mental retardation and it must affect the ability to function in daily life) before age 22. He or she must meet the ICF-MR/RC Level of Care criteria, have a demonstrated need for habilitation, have an approved Individual Service Care Plan for waiver services and reside in the geographic jurisdiction area. Financial eligibility criteria allows for special exclusions for *children* with disabilities. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Long waiting list—**call the listed phone # to be placed on this list.**

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/CLASS/index.cfm>

Community Based Alternatives

512-438-3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program

800-458-9858

Provides home and community-based services to people who are elderly and to adults with disabilities as a cost-effective alternative to living in a nursing home. DADS employees provide case management services. Must be 21 or older. May have a disability or be elderly. Must meet a medical necessity for a nursing home determination. Must choose waiver services over nursing home based on informed choice. **Contact your local DADS office to be placed on the waiting list for services.**

(<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/services/contact.cfm>)

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/CBA/index.cfm>

Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Medicaid Waiver Program

877-438-5658

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program

800-458-9858

Support for families caring for children who are medically dependent and to encourage de-institutionalization of children in nursing homes. This is a Medicaid home and community-based waiver program. Very long waiting list. If useful for a child, get on it ASAP. Eligibility: The child must meet the medical necessity criteria (as diagnosed by a physician) although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. for home nursing care. Eligibility ends at age 21. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. **Call the listed phone # to be placed on this list**

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/MDCP/index.cfm>

Home and Community Based Services (HCS) Medicaid Waiver Program

512-438-3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program

800-458-9858

Very long waiting list. Large range of comprehensive service options such as therapy, residential assistance and case management. No age limit. Cannot be enrolled in another Medicaid waiver program. Expenses over \$20,000 per year. Must have a diagnosis of an intellectual or related disability. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. **Contact your local mental retardation authority (MRA) to be placed on the interest list.**

(<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/contact/mra.cfm>)

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/HCS/index.cfm>

Texas Home Living Waiver Program

512-438-3011

The Department of Aging and Disability Services oversees this program

800-458-9858

Large range of comprehensive services such as therapy, residential assistance and case management up to the amount of \$20,000 per year. Must live at home with family or in independent home (no group homes). Diagnosis of mental retardation required. Cannot be enrolled in another Medicaid waiver program. No age limit. Administered through the Department of Aging and Disability Services although financial eligibility is determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission.

Contact your local mental retardation authority (MRA) to be placed on the interest list.

(<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/contact/mra.cfm>)

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/TxHmL/index.cfm>

General Social and Government Issues**Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP)**

512-320-0222

Non-partisan research organization committed to improving public policies.

<http://www.cppp.org/>

Citizen's Opinion Hotline

800-252-9600

Callers or internet users can leave a message for the governor on matters of public interest

<http://governor.state.tx.us/contact/>

State**Page 26****Texas Senate**

(website only)

You can link to your local/state senators from this site.

www.senate.state.tx.us

Texas House of Representatives

(website only)

You can link to your local/state house representatives from this site.

www.house.state.tx.us

Texas Health and Human Services Helpline

211

Referrals to agency services and providers in Texas.

<https://www.211texas.org/211/>

Legal Issues (also see Educational Advocacy & Law)**Disability Rights Texas: East Region (formerly Advocacy, Inc.)**

800-252-9108

Protects and advocates for the legal rights of persons with disabilities in Texas. Services available in Spanish.

www.disabilityrightstx.org

Guardianship Alliance of Texas

512-424-6599

Information, referral, and public hearings regarding guardianship issues in Texas.

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/si/gab/index.html>

Texas Appleseed

512-473-2800

Research and reports on disability concerns. Handbook for individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families to help navigate the criminal justice system. Legislative action.

www.texasappleseed.net

Texas Civil Rights Project

512-474-5073

A nonprofit group which educates the public about civil rights in Texas, and brings suit against state agencies to protect civil rights.

<http://www.texascivilrightsproject.org>

Texas Lawyers Care

800-204-2222

An on-line directory of free or low cost legal services available to lower income Texans. Also contains information about how to file complaints against public agencies.

www.texasbar.com

Texas Juvenile Justice Department

512-424-6700

Rehabilitation information concerning youths sentenced for committing serious criminal acts. Web site contains a detailed overview of the Texas correctional system for youths. Information available in Spanish.

<http://www.tjjd.texas.gov/default.aspx>

Medical Services, Equipment & Adaptive Technology**Project Mend**

888-903-6363

Medical equipment, supplies, and other services for low-income individuals with disabilities.

<http://www.projectmend.org/>

Star Plus Program

800-964-2777

Provides regular medical health and long-term services and supports for people who receive supplemental social security income. For people who also have Medicare health coverage, Star Plus only provides long-term services and supports. STAR Plus services are provided by health maintenance organizations (HMOs) called health plans.

<http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/sph/>

Texas Department of Assistive & Rehabilitative Services (DARS) – Multiple Locations

800-628-5115

Houston Office

713-735-3470

Vocational services, including when needed, adaptive technology, available to graduating school students with disabilities who will need assistance in gaining employment. Applicant guide available in Spanish.

<http://www.dars.state.tx.us/>

Texas Technology Access Project

800-828-7839

Provides information, conducts training, and works with policy makers to support individuals with disabilities in their efforts to acquire and use technology as a routine part of day-to-day living. Services available in Spanish.

<http://tatp.edb.utexas.edu/>

Social & Leisure**Special Olympics - Texas**

800-876-5646

Year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons eight years of age and older with intellectual disabilities.

<http://www.sotx.org>

State**Page 27****Texas Talking Books**

800-252-9605

Free. Audiotape, Braille, and large print formats for books and magazines available for loan through the Texas library system. Materials are delivered to the home at no charge. For Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities-whether permanent or temporary.

www.tsl.state.tx.us/tbp

VSA Arts of Texas

512-454-9912

Creates learning opportunities through the arts for persons with disabilities, and supports creative expressions by persons with disabilities.

www.vsatx.org

Treatment**Health Professions Complaint Referral System**

800-821-3205

Automated line directs caller to the correct department to initiate complaints against health professionals, including doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, and other medical workers.

<http://www.tmb.state.tx.us/>

Texas Network for Children (Youth for Tomorrow)

(website only)

Internet database containing information on more than 500 residential treatment providers in Texas. Updated each week. Searchable by age, diagnosis, and reimbursement source.

www.yft.org

National Resources

Page 28

General Information & Support (1st by all disability applicable services, 2nd by type of disability applicable service)

All Disabilities/All Special Needs Information and Services

<p>About Face Provides information and social support to individuals with facial differences, and their families. http://aboutface.ca</p>	800-665-3223
<p>American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) A meeting ground for all persons with disabilities to become informed and become active in advocating for disability rights and services. http://www.aapd.com/</p>	800-840-8844
<p>American Disability Association (ADA) Promotes awareness of disability culture and works to enhance quality of life and access to freedom for persons with disabilities. www.adanet.org</p>	205-328-9090
<p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Federal agency responsible for promoting good health practices and providing credible information on all health topics. Web site contains an A to Z list of health topics. Most topics available in Spanish. http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/dhds.html</p>	800-232-4636
<p>Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Coalition of 100 national disability organizations working together to advocate for changes in public policy that promote independence, empowerment, & inclusion for persons with disabilities. www.c-c-d.org</p>	202-783-2229
<p>Council for Disability Rights Advocates for public policy change through education and information. www.disabilityrights.org</p>	(website only)
<p>disABILITY Information and Resource Really useful information on disability issues, with a large focus on assistive technology and medical links. Interesting collection of advocacy links, too. www.makoa.org</p>	(website only)
<p>DisabilityInfo.gov Official federal website for reporting on federal initiatives for disability needs. www.disabilityinfo.gov</p>	(website only)
<p>Easter Seals Disability advocacy. Also provides referrals to local services for persons with disabilities. www.easter-seals.org</p>	800-221-6827
<p>Family Village (University of Wisconsin) Numerous links and resources for a wide variety of disability-related concerns. www.familyvillage.wisc.edu</p>	(website only)
<p>Kid's Quest on Disability and Health (CDC) Site for children to help them understand disabilities and learn how to interact with children who have special needs. www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/kids/</p>	(website only)
<p>National Council on Disability Excellent advocacy information as well as government reports on a variety of disability-related studies that can be downloaded for free. www.ncd.gov</p>	202-272-2004
<p>National Organization on Disability (NOD) Raises disability awareness through educational programs, with an emphasis on inclusion and participation. www.nod.org</p>	646-505-1191
<p>PACER Center An advocacy organization based in Minnesota working to improve the quality of life for children with disabilities through parent to parent networking and community collaboration. www.pacer.org/</p>	888-248-0822

National**Page 29****People with Disabilities Foundation (PWDF)**

415-931-3070

Education and advocacy for persons with disabilities.

www.pwdf.org/**Public Citizen Health Research Group (E-letter)**

202-546-4996

Founded by Ralph Nadar, this organization promotes research-based, system-wide changes in health care policy, with particular emphasis on psychiatric drugs. Contains a drug information database detailing common psychiatric drugs.

<http://www.citizen.org/hrq/>**TASH**

202-540-9020

A community for families, individuals, service providers, and educators working to promote inclusion and opportunity for all persons with disabilities.

www.tash.org**Through the Looking Glass**

800-644-2666

A dialogue between people with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities, siblings, spouses and adult children of parents with disabilities, emphasizing a life cycle approach which integrates perspectives gained from personal and family disability. Information available in Spanish.

www.lookingglass.org**Wide Smiles**

209-942-2812

A nice site for resources and links to a wide variety of interests for those with special needs, including some interesting information on concerns related to having a cleft palate.

www.widesmiles.org**Specific Disabilities Information and Services****ADD/ADHD****ADDinSchool.com**

(website only)

Information about a number of treatment resources and strategies for parents and teachers.

www.addinschool.com**Children and Adults with ADD/ADHD (CHADD)**

301-306-7070

Information, referral and support. Web site available in Spanish.

www.chadd.org**Autism, Asperger Syndrome, & PDD****Aspie.com**

(website only)

Web page with basic resources regarding Asperger syndrome.

<http://www.aspie.com/>**Asperger Syndrome Organization (OASIS)**

(website only)

Website covering many aspects of Asperger Syndrome.

<http://www.aspergersyndrome.org/>**Autism National Committee (AUTCOM)**

(website only)

A national "think tank" advancing the research, understanding and practice of positive, relationship-and communication-based approaches to assisting children and adults with autism.

www.autcom.org**Autism Now**

855-828-8476

National resource and information organization

<http://autismnow.org/>**Autism-PDD Resources Network**

(website only)

A good site for a variety of information related to this disability.

www.autism-pdd.net/**Autism Research Institute (ARI)**

(website only)

Conducts research into the causes of autism and on methods of preventing, diagnosing and treating autism and other severe behavioral disorders of childhood.

www.autism.com/ari/**Autism Society of America (ASA)**

301-657-0881

Promotes lifelong access and opportunity for all individuals within the autism spectrum, and their families, to be fully participating, included members of their community.

www.autism-society.org

National**Page 30****Autistics.org**

Very useful site created by people with autism stressing self-independence and self-advocacy.

www.autistics.org

(website only)

The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies

Nonprofit research organization. Covers research related issues for applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.

<http://www.behavior.org/>

(website only)

Families of Adults Afflicted with Asperger Syndrome

Education and support for families of adults with Asperger Syndrome.

www.faaas.org

508-790-1930

Families for the Early Treatment of Autism (FEAT)

National nonprofit with branches in many states, including Texas.

www.feat.org

916-303 7405

MAAP Services

Information for and about individuals with high functioning autism/Asperger Syndrome.

www.maapservices.org

(website only)

Tony Attwood's site

A website for parents, professionals and people with Asperger Syndrome. Mr. Attwood has developed a number of publications and products concerning Asperger Syndrome.

<http://www.tonyattwood.com.au/>

(website only)

Blind and Visual Impairment**Assistive Media**

Provides *free* access to audio files of a wide variety of printed material over the internet

www.assistivemedia.org

(website only)

Brain Injury**Brain Injury Association of America**

Information, referral, and advocacy for persons with brain injury.

www.biausa.org

703-761-0750

Cerebral Palsy**American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine**

Multidisciplinary scientific society devoted to the study of cerebral palsy and other childhood onset disabilities. Contains information & referral about CP and other developmental disorders.

www.aacpdm.org/index?service=page/Home

414-918-3014

Cerebral Palsy Connection

Families share information and stories about their experiences with CP.

www.cpcconnection.com/

(website only)

UCP (formerly United Cerebral Palsy)

As one of the largest health charities in America, UCP's mission is to advance the independence, productivity and full citizenship of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities.

www.ucp.org

800-872-5827

Down Syndrome**The Down Syndrome Information Network**

An on-line library concerning Down Syndrome and related topics.

www.down-syndrome.org

(website only)

Karen Gaffney Foundation

Karen Gaffney, a woman with Down Syndrome, graduated from high school with a full diploma, created her own web site and foundation, and does public speaking engagements advocating for the types of supports that helped her succeed.

www.karengaffneyfoundation.com

503-781-8621

Mosaic Down Syndrome on the Web

Information related to Mosaic Down Syndrome, compiled by a mother who could not find information on the subject when her daughter was born.

www.mosaicdownsyndrome.com

(website only)

National Down Syndrome Congress

Advocacy for persons with Down Syndrome and their families.

www.ndscenter.org

800-232-6372

National**Page 31****National Down Syndrome Society**

Information and referral, focused on education, research, and advocacy for persons with Down Syndrome and their families.
Information available in Spanish.

www.ndss.org

800-221-4602

Dyslexia**International Dyslexia Association**

Information about dyslexia, and links to related sites and support groups. Some information available in Spanish.

www.interdys.org

410-296-0232

National Center for Learning Disabilities

Wealth of information about dyslexia and other learning disabilities

<http://www.ncld.org/>

888-575-7373

Epilepsy**Epilepsy Foundation**

Information, referral, support, and advocacy for persons with epilepsy.

www.epilepsyfoundation.org

800-332-1000

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome**The Arc of the United States**

Has numerous materials about fetal alcohol syndrome as well as other developmental disabilities. Type in FAS once you have reached their Website to download information or send for FAS/FAE kits and self-advocacy materials.

www.thearc.org/

800-433-5255

FAS Community Resource Center

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: support, training, advocacy, and many printed resources. Videos, posters, brochures, presentations, and workshops for prevention and intervention. Website is loaded with information and resources for parents and professionals.

www.come-over.to/FASCRC

(website only)

National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Develops and implements innovative community based and culturally appropriate prevention, intervention, education and advocacy strategies nationwide. Comprehensive information available

www.nofas.org/

800-666-6327

Fragile X Syndrome**FRAXA Research Foundation**

A group founded by three parents of children with Fragile X Syndrome that supports scientific research aimed at finding a treatment and a cure.

www.fraxa.org

978-462-1866

National Fragile X Foundation

Information about Fragile X Syndrome and links to related sites. Available in Spanish.

www.fragilex.org/html/home.shtml

800-688-8765

Intellectual Disabilities**Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**

Information about Intellectual and related disabilities. AAMR promotes progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights for people with intellectual disabilities.

<http://www.aamr.org/index.cfm>

800-424-3688

The Arc of the United States

Good resource for learning about developmental disabilities. Great link to government officials where you can e-mail representatives with disability advocacy concerns (Action Center web page).

www.thearc.org

800-433-5255

The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies

Nonprofit research organization. Covers research related issues for applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.

<http://www.behavior.org/>

(website only)

CogLink

Helps individuals with cognitive disabilities set up and use e-mail accounts

<http://www.coglink.com/>

800-716-9695

National**Page 32****National Association for the Dually Diagnosed**

Promotes treatment services for individuals who have developmental disabilities and mental health needs.
www.thenadd.org

800-331-5362

Klinefelter's Syndrome**Klinefelter Syndrome Support Group**

Information about Klinefelter Syndrome and links to local support groups.
www.klinefeltersyndrome.org

(website only)

Learning Disorders**Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities**

Good starting point for researching types of learning disabilities. Available in Spanish.
www.aboutld.org

(website only)

International Dyslexia Association

Information about dyslexia, and links to related sites and support groups. Available in Spanish.
www.interdys.org

410-296-0232

LD On Line

Huge amount of accommodation, modification, and curriculum information related to disabilities.
www.ldonline.org

(website only)

Learning Disabilities Association of America

For families, and the professionals who work with them. Their purpose is to advance the education and general welfare of children and adults with learning disabilities.
www.ldanatl.org

412-341-1515

Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes

Special learning/tutoring program for children with learning disorders, including dyslexia.
www.lblp.com

800-233-1819

Nat'l Assoc for the Education of African-American Children w/Learning Disabilities

Information, referral, and research into special education and learning disorders in minority populations.
<http://www.aacld.org/>

614-237-6021

Nonverbal Learning Disorders

Committed to facilitating education, research and advocacy for children and adults who manifest disabilities associated with the syndrome of nonverbal learning disorders
<http://www.nldontheweb.org/>

(website only)

Mental Illness**Anxiety and Depression Disorders Association of America**

Dedicated to informing the public, healthcare professionals and legislators that anxiety disorders are real, serious and treatable. Provides information, referral, and support.
www.adaa.org

240-485-1001

The Balanced Mind Foundation

Information about early onset bi-polar disorder.
www.bpkids.org

847-492-8510

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA)

Working to improve the lives of persons with mood disorders.
www.dbsalliance.org

800-826-3632

Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

A network of local organizations advocating for children's mental health issues.
www.ffcmh.org

240-403.1901

HealthyPlace.com

Information on various mental health disorders and disabilities.
www.healthyplace.com

(website only)

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)

Information, referral, and advocacy for persons with mental illness and their families.
www.nami.org

800 950 6264

Brain Behavior Research Foundation

Supports research into finding the causes, better treatments and eventual cures for schizophrenia and other illnesses
www.narsad.org

516-829-0091

National**Page 33****National Association for the Dually Diagnosed**

Promotes treatment services for individuals who have developmental disabilities and mental health needs.

www.thenadd.org

800-331-5362

The International Foundation for Research & Education on Depression

Information, referral, and support for persons experiencing depression.

www.ifred.org

(website only)

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Federal agency conducting research into the causes and treatment of mental illness. Provides free brochures to educate the public about mental illness and related issues. Most brochures available in Spanish.

www.nimh.nih.gov

866-615-6464

Mental Health America

Advocacy, education, and research into issues pertaining to mental health and mental illness.

www.nmha.org

800-969-6642

Muscular Dystrophy**Muscular Dystrophy Association**

A research, education, and community services organization serving persons with neuromuscular disease. Information available in Spanish.

www.mdaua.org

(website only)

Prader-Willi Syndrome**Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (PWSA)**

Information, referral and support for persons and families affected by Prader-Willi Syndrome.

www.pwsausa.org

800-926-4797

Rett Syndrome**International Rett Syndrome Association**

Information, referral, support and advocacy for persons with Rett Syndrome.

www.rettsyndrome.org

800-818-7388

Rett Syndrome Research Trust

Created by six parents of children with Rett Syndrome to find treatments and a cure.

www.rsrt.org

203-445-0041

Tourette Syndrome**Tourette Syndrome Association (TSA)**

Working to identify the cause of, find the cure for, and control the effects of Tourette Syndrome.

www.tsa-usa.org

718-224-2999

Tourette Syndrome Plus

Information and stories compiled by a psychologist treating persons with Tourette Syndrome, who is also the mother of two children with Tourette Syndrome.

www.tourettesyndrome.net

(website only)

Williams Syndrome**The Williams Syndrome Association**

Devoted to improving the lives of individuals with Williams syndrome by supporting research into all facets of the syndrome, and developing up to date educational materials.

www.williams-syndrome.org

800-806-1871

Caregiver Support**ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center**

Excellent clearing house for information about respite and other caregiver issues.

www.archrespite.org

206-632-5208

National**Page 34****Caregiver.com**

On-line magazine providing information, support, and guidance for family caregivers.
www.caregiver.com

(website only)

National Family Caregivers Association (NFCA)

Organization supporting and advocating for family caregivers.
www.nfcacares.org/

800-896-3650

Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving (RCI)

Supports research, education, and training to promote mental health and well-being of individual, family, and professional caregivers. Good caregiver resource page for linking to supports.
<http://rci.gsw.edu/>

229-928-1234

Child Care**National Network for Child Care**

Information and referral for choosing child care.
www.nncc.org

(website only)

Education**Support for Educators and Parents****About Special Education**

Good site for information on many disabilities and related concerns.
<http://www.specialed.about.com/>

(website only)

All Kinds of Minds

Non-profit organization founded by Dr. Mel Levine for the purpose of educating parents, teachers and other professionals about learning differences, and how to approach differences in learning.
www.allkindsofminds.org

(website only)

Center on Community Living and Careers

Good site for transition information. A service of Indiana University
www.iidc.indiana.edu/cclc

812-855-6508

Do 2 Learn

Teacher and parent material for use with children who have cognitive disabilities. Offers some free downloads
www.do2learn.com

919-755-1809

HEATH Resource Center

A national clearing house for postsecondary education for persons with disabilities.
www.heath.gwu.edu/

(website only)

Inclusion Daily

Good resource for inclusion ideas as well as advocacy issues.
www.InclusionDaily.com/

(website only)

National Center on Secondary Education and Transition

Great site for transition and disability related information.
www.ncset.org

(website only)

National Center on Education Outcomes (NCEO)

Great resource for accessing special education data (national and some state).
www.nceo.info

612-626-1530

National Information Center on Children and Youth with Disabilities

Great free, downloadable publications that cover virtually all aspects of special needs and education concerns
www.nichcy.org/
 Spanish: <http://www.nichcy.org/spanish.htm>

800-695-0285

National Center on Special Education Research

Good source of information on research related to effective special education.
<http://ies.ed.gov/ncser/>

202-219-1385

Office of Special Education; US Department of Education

They have links to educational resources, law information as well as updates on nation level, special education topics.
www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html

202-245-7459

National**Page 35****Pro Ed on line**

800-897-3202

Publishes quality assessment, curriculum and research tools for students with disabilities, as well as several interesting professional journals and books. Based in Austin.

www.proedinc.com

Project Participate

(website only)

Good site for inclusion strategies and inclusion success stories.

<http://www.projectparticipate.org/>

Speaking of Speech

(website only)

A place to share ideas about special education for speech and language disabilities.

www.speakingofspeech.com

Special Education News

(website only)

Provides very up-to-date information on special education issues.

www.specialednews.com/

Special Education Resources on the Internet (SERI)

(website only)

List of internet resources relating to various aspects of special education.

www.seriweb.com

Educational Advocacy & Law**CADRE (Consortium for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education)**

(website only)

Provides technical assistance to education agencies in compliance with the mediation requirement in IDEA. Provides information to parents & other professionals about special education mediation

www.directionservice.org/cadre

The Center for Education and Employment Law (formerly Oakstone Legal)

800-365-4900

Produces technical publications regarding IDEA and ADA law interpretations. Good source for finding detailed legal documents.

<http://www.ceelonline.com/>

The Council of Parent Attorney and Advocates (COPAA)

(website only)

Great site for special education law concerns.

<http://copaa.net/>

Education Law Association

937-229-3589

Nonprofit organization offering information about current legal issues affecting education. Organization consists mainly of attorneys, professors and school professionals.

www.educationlaw.org

Families and Advocates Partnership for Education (FAPE)

952-838-9000

Useful advocacy site with information on No Child Left Behind and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act

www.fape.org

FindLaw

(website only)

Great source for obtaining actual laws related to special education and other concerns.

www.findlaw.com

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004

(website only)

The 2004 version of the federal special education statute (Public Law 108 – 446)

<http://www.copyright.gov/legislation/pl108-446.pdf> Added **Regulations** <http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cregs%2C>

LRP Publications

(website only)

Legal publications addressing detailed aspects of IDEA, focused on the minimum legal requirements of special education. Intended for school professionals..

www.lrp.com

Mayerson and Associates (Mayerslaw)

212-265-7200

A special education advocacy site. Nice synopsis of landmark court cases.

www.mayerslaw.com

National Dissemination Center on Children and Youth with Disabilities

(website only)

Great, free downloadable publications that cover virtually all aspects of IDEA. Also a good state-by-state resources guide.

Available in Spanish.

<http://nichcy.org/>

Spanish: <http://www.nichcy.org/spanish.htm>

National**Page 36****No Child Left Behind**

(website only)

Official government site for the No Child Left Behind Act. Some information in Spanish.

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/states/index.html>

Spanish: <http://www2.ed.gov/espanol/bienvenidos/es/nclb.html>

Office for Civil Rights (Department of Education)

800-421-3481

The national website for the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Education. Provides contact information for complaints about schools by state.

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html?src=mr>

OSERS (Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services)

202-245-7468

Some interesting research as well as occasional updates on national level special education issues. Some information available in Spanish.

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html?src=mr>

Special Education News

(website only)

Frequent updates on education and advocacy news.

www.specialednews.com

Wrightslaw

(website only)

Great site for special education law and advocacy information. A wealth of free advocacy information.

www.wrightslaw.com and for their blog <http://www.wrightslaw.com/blog/>

Employment**The Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE)**

301-279-0060

Working to improve and expand integrated employment opportunities, services, and outcomes for persons experiencing disabilities.

www.apse.org

The Center for Education and Employment Law (formerly Oakstone Legal)

800-365-4900

Produces technical publications regarding IDEA and ADA law interpretations. Good source for finding detailed legal documents.

<http://www.ceelonline.com/ceel/default.asp>

Disability.gov (Find Information on Employment)

(website only)

Good resources for employment needs and disability topics. The national resources option link is quite comprehensive.

<https://www.disability.gov/employment#map>

Goodwill Industries International

(website only)

Working to eliminate barriers to opportunity for people with special needs, particularly in the area of employment

www.goodwill.org

National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability

877-871-0744

Technical assistance on employment of people with disabilities

www.ncwd-youth.info

Office of Disability Employment Policy

866-633-7365

Resources on disability and employment legislation

<http://www.dol.gov/odep/>

Ticket to Work

(website only)

New legislation gives individuals receiving disability benefits greater freedom to work and earn income without losing benefits. The program also includes employment training.

www.yourtickettowork.com

Financial & Basic Needs Support**Supplemental Social Security Income**

800-772-1213

Families of children with disabilities may be able to receive a supplemental income to help offset the cost of raising a child with a disability. Eligibility is based on family income, the number of people in the family, and the severity of the disability. Some information available in Spanish.

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/index.htm>

National**Page 37****Housing Accessibility & Home Modification****Concrete Change**

Supporting universal design efforts to make all homes accessible to persons with disabilities.

www.concretechange.org

404-378-7455

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (HUD)

Information about the rights of persons with disabilities in regards to housing, and how to file complaints.

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD/topics/information_for_disabled_persons

202-708-1112

Infinitec

Information about home modification for houses and apartments. A program of UCP in Illinois

<http://www.infinitec.org/>

(website only)

National Resource Center on Supportive Housing and Home Modification

Working to make supportive housing and home modification a more integral component of all communities

<http://qero.usc.edu/nrcshhm/index.htm>

213-740-1364

WELLcome Home

Information about home modification and accessibility

<http://wellcomehome.iweb.bsu.edu/index.html>

765-285-1471

Legal Issues (also see Educational Advocacy & Law)**Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law**

National advocates for the legal rights of adults and children with mental disabilities

www.bazelon.org

202-467-5730

Disability Law Resource Project

Provides technical assistance, training, and materials related to Americans with Disabilities Act

<https://www.disability.gov/viewResource?id=1836900>

(website only)

FindLaw

Great source for obtaining actual laws related to disability and other concerns.

<http://www.findlaw.com/>

(website only)

National Guardianship Association

Information, referral and advocacy for excellence in guardianship

www.guardianship.org

877-326-5992

Medical Equipment & Adaptive Technology**ABLEDATA**

A federally funded project which provides information about assistive technology and rehabilitation equipment. Contains information on over 30,000 products.

www.abledata.com

800-227-0216

Assistivetech.net

Clearing house of information regarding assistive technology

www.assistivetech.net

404-894-4960

disABILITY Information and Resource

Really useful information on disability issues, with a large focus on assistive technology and medical links. Interesting collection of advocacy links, too.

www.makoa.org

(website only)

CogLink

Helps individuals with cognitive disabilities set up and use e-mail accounts

<http://www.coglink.com/>

800-716-9695

Religion**Council for Jews with Special Needs**

Helping persons with special needs participate fully in Jewish religious, social, and cultural life.

www.cjsn.org

480-629-5343

The Episcopal Disability Network

Information about the status of addressing disability issues in the church, and support for local congregations wishing to improve accessibility

<http://disability99.org/>

888-738-3636

National**Page 38****National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities**

202-529-2933

Focus on full inclusion for all persons with disabilities in the Church and in society
www.ncpd.org

Parish Ministry Consultants

800-369-4636

A program of Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services that helps persons with disabilities locate accessible area congregations, and participate more fully in church life.
<http://bethesdalutherancommunities.org/page.aspx?pid=523>

Social & Leisure**Ability OnLine Supports**

866-650-6207

A free internet community where children and youth with disabilities or illness and their parents can meet others like them, make friends from all over the world, share their hopes and fears, find role-models and mentors, and feel like they belong
www.abilityonline.org

Challenge Aspen

970-923-0578

Year-round recreational and cultural programs for people with cognitive and physical disabilities, and their families
www.challengeaspen.com

Fishing Has no Boundaries

800-243-3462

Sponsors accessible fishing events for persons with a broad range of disabilities
www.fhnbin.org

Infinitec

(website only)

Extensive information about recreational accommodations for persons with disabilities. Contains sections on gardening, travel, shopping, sports, outdoor activities, transportation, & entertainment.
www.infinitec.org/play/index.html

National Center on Physical Activity and Disability

(website only)

Information about the exercise needs for individuals with disabilities, and exercise opportunities.
www.ncpad.org

Accessible Travel**Accessible Travel and Hospitality Society**

212-447-7284

Information regarding accessible travel needs as well as links to travel services
<http://sath.org/index.php>

Amtrack: Accessibility Services

(see website)

Information about accessibility services from Amtrack and requesting special accommodations
<http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?c=Page&pagename=am%2FLayout&cid=1241210579564>

Greyhound Bus Customers with Disabilities Travel Assistance

800-752-4841

Information about accessibility services from Greyhound and requesting special accommodations
<http://www.greyhound.com/en/ticketsandtravel/disabledtravelers.aspx>

DOT Disability Hotline

800-778-4838

Information about how to plan air travel, the rights of individuals with disabilities under the Air Carrier Access Act, and real-time assistance in resolving issues concerning service animals, stowage of personal equipment, and other accommodations.
<http://airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/hotline.htm>

Treatment Services (Behavioral and Medical)**American Hippotherapy Association**

877-851-4592

Information about how horses are used to improve the results of physical, occupational, and speech therapy
www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org

American Music Therapy Association

301-589-3300

Information and referral about music therapy
www.musictherapy.org

The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies

978-369-2227

A nonprofit research organization. Information about issues related to applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques
www.behavior.org

Canine Companions for Independence

800-572-2275

Provides service dogs for persons with limited mobility, hearing impairment, cognitive deficit, or emotional challenges
www.caninecompanions.org

National**Page 39****Pet Partners (formerly Delta Society)**

(website only)

A wealth of information about therapeutic human-animal interactions

www.deltasociety.org**National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped**

888-471-6334

Provides free, comprehensive dental care for persons with disabilities. May provide in-home service to homebound individuals. Links to providers by state.

www.nfdh.org**Other Need Support- General, not specifically disability related****All Assistance: Generic General****National Hispanic Prenatal Health Line**

202 387 5000

Bilingual helpline staff answer questions about prenatal care and provide referrals to culturally competent health providers by zip code. Also provides bilingual fact sheets on numerous topics.

www.hispanichealth.org**NeedyMeds.com**

(website only)

Information clearing house for patient assistance programs and other programs that provide medications to low income patients who cannot afford to pay for them.

www.needymeds.org**Su Familia: National Hispanic Family Health Hotline**

866-783-2645

Bilingual helpline staff answer questions about health topics and provide referrals to local health providers by zip code. Also provides bilingual fact sheets on various conditions

www.hispanichealth.org**Crisis & Disaster Preparedness****Administration for Children and Families: Coping with Disaster**

800-422-4453

Suggestions for how to help children with disabilities cope with disaster, tragedy and traumatic stress

http://www.acf.hhs.gov/acf_services.html#ddamr**American Red Cross**

202.303.4498

Information about disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities

<http://www.redcross.org/>**FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Administration)**

800-621-3362

Information about disaster preparedness for persons with disabilities

<http://www.fema.gov/index.shtm><http://www.fema.gov/news-release/special-needs-need-special-planning-disasters> (disaster preparation for disability needs)